I.   Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows with the following version of the claims in accordance with revised 37 CFR § 1.121.

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for management of a
distributed data processing system, the method comprising:
      associating a set of logical networks in the distributed
data processing system and/or a set of physical networks in the
distributed data processing system with an anchor object,
wherein different physical networks within the distributed data
processing system may support duplicate network addresses;
      managing a set of anchor objects, wherein each anchor
object has an anchorname which is a root name within a
hierarchical naming space that represents a hierarchical logical
network, wherein each anchorname is a unique name within the
distributed data processing system, and wherein usage of an
anchorname in combination with subnet information for a logical
network supports unique addressing within a logical network;
      uniquely associating each anchor object in a set of anchor
objects with a customer in a set of customers, wherein the
distributed data processing system is managed on behalf of a
plurality of customers;
      generating a topology map that includes a plurality of
anchor objects, ~~wherein a root node of the topology map is the
anchor object~~; and
      displaying the topology map.

2.   (Canceled).

3.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further
comprising:
      editing the topology map by creating topology elements
including relations to other topology elements which may include
anchor objects.

4.   (Original) he method of claim 3 further comprising:
      creating a user-defined topology element container.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 3 further comprising:
       creating relations between the user-defined topology
element container and other containers.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
       receiving a customer-defined topology comprising customer-
defined topology elements.

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 ~~further~~
~~comprising~~: wherein the customer-defined topology elements are
containers containing other elements.

8.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 further
comprising:
       receiving a customer-defined anchor name name to be
collectively associated with elements within the anchor object.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 8 further comprising:
       discovering customization resources to be associated with
elements of the customer-defined topology.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 9 further comprising:
       determining a customization resource based on an
association between an identity of a user and a customer-defined
topology element.

11.   (Canceled).

12.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
       simultaneously displaying a plurality of anchor objects.

13.   (Canceled).

14.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
        providing a selection mechanism whereby a user may select a
displayed object; and
        displaying detailed information for a selected object.

15.   (Original) The method of claim 14 further comprising:
        determining whether a user has authorized access to the
detailed information for the selected object; and
        restricting a display operation for the detailed
information for the selected object to data items in the detail
information for which the user has authorized access.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the anchor
object is a container object, further comprising:
        retrieving an alternative graphic object for representing
the selected object; and
        displaying the alternative graphic object.

17.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
        allowing an administrative user to select a display view of
the topology map, wherein a display view of the topology map
comprises a hierarchical tree view of all objects discovered by
a user-specified distributed discovery controller.

18.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

representing the distributed data processing system as a set of scopes, wherein a scope comprises a logical organization of network-related objects;

associating each scope with a customer, wherein each scope is uniquely assigned to a management customer;

managing the distributed data processing system as a set of logical networks, wherein a logical network comprises a set of scopes, and wherein each logical network is uniquely assigned to a customer.

19.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

dynamically discovering endpoints, systems, and networks within the distributed data processing system;

correspondingly representing endpoints, systems, and networks within the distributed data processing system as a set of endpoint objects, system objects, and network objects; and

logically organizing the endpoint objects, system objects, and network objects within a set of scopes, wherein each endpoint object, each system object, and each network object is uniquely assigned to a scope such that scopes do not logically overlap.

20.   (Currently Amended)   A method for management of a
distributed data processing system, the method comprising:
    associating a set of logical networks in the distributed
data processing system and/or a set of physical networks in the
distributed data processing system with an anchor object,
wherein different physical networks within the distributed data
processing system may support duplicate network addresses;
    managing a set of anchor objects, wherein each anchor
object has an anchorname which is a root name within a
hierarchical naming space that represents a hierarchical logical
network, wherein each anchorname is a unique name within the
distributed data processing system, and wherein usage of an
anchorname in combination with subnet information for a logical
network supports unique addressing within a logical network;
    uniquely associating each anchor object in a set of anchor
objects with a customer in a set of customers, wherein the
distributed data processing system is managed on behalf of a
plurality of customers;
    creating a customer-defined topology;
    associating the customer-defined topology with a topology
derived from a physical network to form a combined topology map;
    associating customization resources with elements within
the combined topology map; and
    displaying the combined topology map.

21.   (Original) The method of claim 20 further comprising:
    requesting a network management operation based on the
combined topology map.

22.   (Currently Amended) A method for management of a
distributed data processing system, wherein the distributed data
processing system is managed on behalf of a plurality of
management customers, the method comprising:

5   representing the distributed data processing system as a
set of scopes, wherein a scope comprises a user-defined logical
organization of network-related objects, wherein different
scopes within the distributed data processing system may support
duplicate network addresses;

10   associating each scope with an anchor object, wherein an
anchor object is uniquely assigned to a management customer;
           managing a set of anchor objects, wherein each anchor
object has an anchorname which is a root name within a
hierarchical naming space that represents a hierarchical logical
15   network, wherein each anchorname is a unique name within the
distributed data processing system, and wherein usage of an
anchorname in combination with subnet information for a logical
network supports unique addressing within a logical network;
           generating a topology map, ~~wherein a root node of the~~
20   ~~topology map is the anchor object~~; and
           allowing an administrative user to select a display view of
the topology map.

23.   (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein a display view of
25   the topology map comprises a hierarchical tree view of all
objects discovered by a user-specified distributed discovery
controller.

24.   (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein a display view of
30   the topology map comprises a hierarchical tree view of all
objects discovered by a plurality of distributed discovery
controllers.

25. (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein a display view of
the topology map comprises a hierarchical tree view of all
objects discovered by all distributed discovery controllers for
which a user has authorized access.

5

26.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus for managing a distributed data processing system, the apparatus comprising:

means for associating a set of logical networks in the distributed data processing system and/or a set of physical networks in the distributed data processing system with an anchor object, wherein different physical networks within the distributed data processing system may support duplicate network addresses;

means for managing a set of anchor objects, wherein each anchor object has an anchorname which is a root name within a hierarchical naming space that represents a hierarchical logical network, wherein each anchorname is a unique name within the distributed data processing system, and wherein usage of an anchorname in combination with subnet information for a logical network supports unique addressing within a logical network;

means for uniquely associating each anchor object in a set of anchor objects with a customer in a set of customers, wherein the distributed data processing system is managed on behalf of a plurality of customers;

means for generating a topology map that includes a plurality of anchor objects, ~~wherein a root node of the topology map is the anchor object~~; and

means for displaying the topology map.

27.   (Canceled).

28.   (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 26 further comprising:

means for editing the topology map by creating topology elements including relations to other topology elements which may include anchor objects.

29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 28 further comprising:
     means for creating a user-defined topology element
container.

30. (Original) The apparatus of claim 28 further comprising:
     means for creating relations between the user-defined
topology element container and other containers.

31. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26 further comprising:
     means for receiving a customer-defined topology comprising
customer-defined topology elements.

32. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 31 ~~further~~
~~comprising:means for~~ wherein the customer-defined topology
elements are containers containing other elements.

33. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 31 further
comprising:
     means for receiving a customer-defined ~~anchorname~~ name to
be collectively associated with elements within the anchor
object.

34. (Original) The apparatus of claim 33 further comprising:
     means for discovering customization resources to be
associated with elements of the customer-defined topology.

35. (Original) The apparatus of claim 34 further comprising:
     means for determining a customization resource based on an
association between an identity of a user and a customer-defined
topology element.

36. (Canceled).

37.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 26 further comprising:
    means for simultaneously displaying a plurality of anchor
objects.

38.   (Canceled).

39.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 26 further comprising:
    means for providing a selection mechanism whereby a user
may select a displayed object; and
    means for displaying detailed information for a selected
object.

40.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 39 further comprising:
    means for determining whether a user has authorized access
to the detailed information for the selected object; and
    means for restricting a display operation for the detailed
information for the selected object to data items in the detail
information for which the user has authorized access.

41.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the anchor
object is a container object, further comprising:
    means for retrieving an alternative graphic object for
representing the selected object; and
    means for displaying the alternative graphic object.

42.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 26 further comprising:
    means for allowing an administrative user to select a
display view of the topology map, wherein a display view of the
topology map comprises a hierarchical tree view of all objects
discovered by a user-specified distributed discovery controller.

43.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 26 further comprising:
        means for representing the distributed data processing
system as a set of scopes, wherein a scope comprises a logical
organization of network-related objects;

        means for associating each scope with a customer, wherein
each scope is uniquely assigned to a management customer;

        means for managing the distributed data processing system
as a set of logical networks, wherein a logical network
comprises a set of scopes, and wherein each logical network is
uniquely assigned to a customer.

44.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 26 further comprising:
        means for dynamically discovering endpoints, systems, and
networks within the distributed data processing system;

        correspondingly representing endpoints, systems, and
networks within the distributed data processing system as a set
of endpoint objects, system objects, and network objects; and

        means for logically organizing the endpoint objects, system
objects, and network objects within a set of scopes, wherein
each endpoint object, each system object, and each network
object is uniquely assigned to a scope such that scopes do not
logically overlap.

45.   (Currently Amended)   An apparatus for management of a
distributed data processing system, the apparatus comprising:
        means for associating a set of logical networks in the
distributed data processing system and/or a set of physical
networks in the distributed data processing system with an
anchor object, wherein different physical networks within the
distributed data processing system may support duplicate network
addresses;

means for managing a set of anchor objects, wherein each anchor object has an anchorname which is a root name within a hierarchical naming space that represents a hierarchical logical network, wherein each anchorname is a unique name within the distributed data processing system, and wherein usage of an anchorname in combination with subnet information for a logical network supports unique addressing within a logical network;

means for uniquely associating each anchor object in a set of anchor objects with a customer in a set of customers, wherein the distributed data processing system is managed on behalf of a plurality of customers;

means for creating a customer-defined topology;

means for associating the customer-defined topology with a topology derived from a physical network to form a combined topology map;

means for associating customization resources with elements within the combined topology map; and

means for displaying the combined topology map.

46. (Original) The apparatus of claim 45 further comprising:

means for requesting a network management operation based on the combined topology map.

47. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for management of a distributed data processing system, wherein the distributed data processing system is managed on behalf of a plurality of management customers, the apparatus comprising:

means for representing the distributed data processing system as a set of scopes, wherein a scope comprises a user-defined logical organization of network-related objects, wherein different scopes within the distributed data processing system may support duplicate network addresses;

means for associating each scope with an anchor object,
wherein an anchor object is uniquely assigned to a management
customer;

means for managing a set of anchor objects, wherein each
anchor object has an anchorname which is a root name within a
hierarchical naming space that represents a hierarchical logical
network, wherein each anchorname is a unique name within the
distributed data processing system, and wherein usage of an
anchorname in combination with subnet information for a logical
network supports unique addressing within a logical network;

means for generating a topology map, ~~wherein a root node of
the topology map is the anchor object~~; and

means for allowing an administrative user to select a
display view of the topology map.

48.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 47 wherein a display view
of the topology map comprises a hierarchical tree view of all
objects discovered by a user-specified distributed discovery
controller.

49.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 47 wherein a display view
of the topology map comprises a hierarchical tree view of all
objects discovered by a plurality of distributed discovery
controllers.

50.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 47 wherein a display view
of the topology map comprises a hierarchical tree view of all
objects discovered by all distributed discovery controllers for
which a user has authorized access.

51.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product on a computer readable medium for use in managing a distributed data processing system, the computer program product comprising:

instructions for associating a set of logical networks in the distributed data processing system and/or a set of physical networks in the distributed data processing system with an anchor object, wherein different physical networks within the distributed data processing system may support duplicate network addresses;

instructions for managing a set of anchor objects, wherein each anchor object has an anchorname which is a root name within a hierarchical naming space that represents a hierarchical logical network, wherein each anchorname is a unique name within the distributed data processing system, and wherein usage of an anchorname in combination with subnet information for a logical network supports unique addressing within a logical network;

instructions for uniquely associating each anchor object in a set of anchor objects with a customer in a set of customers, wherein the distributed data processing system is managed on behalf of a plurality of customers;

instructions for generating a topology map that includes a plurality of anchor objects, ~~wherein a root node of the topology map is the anchor object~~; and

instructions for displaying the topology map.

52.   (Canceled).

53.   (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 51 further comprising:

instructions for allowing an administrative user to select a display view of the topology map, wherein a display view of the topology map comprises a hierarchical tree view of all

objects discovered by a user-specified distributed discovery
controller.